

There is something more than a mere family wrangle in the disruption of the Salvation Army. It never has been an organization fitted for permanent usefulness on American soil. The Declaration of Independence meant something. Fidelity to its principles is as necessary now as it ever was. Neither in religion nor in any other effort is there reason why an American citizen should be subject to a foreign power which might at any time become a power hostile to the interests of his country. Doubtless to some the thought may seem strange, but the man who cannot be a thorough and loyal American can never have the best or widest influence with the masses of Americans, and there is good reason why he should not.

The Booth family conducted the Salvation Army very much as a personal affair. Loyalty to the nation was nowhere; even loyalty to God was apparently secondary, and the thing most of all regarded was loyalty to General Booth. His children were intrusted with a large share of the control in different countries, and they with all other officers were expected to feel that they had no country and knew no ruler except the General. Great results have been achieved by a similar organization in the Catholic Church, and its potency for certain purposes is unquestioned. But it is not an American institution, is not in harmony with American interests or beliefs, does not belong here, and could never become permanently naturalized. A genuine American does not submit himself to despotic power of any sort. He does not take upon him-